

### **CES Environmental Services, Houston, Harris County, TX:**

**Issue:** CES site vandalized, waste released, bankruptcy trustee hired contractor to address waste, TCEQ providing oversight.

CES is a former environmental waste management company. The site is associated with the CES-PACES Site in Port Arthur, TX. The company filed bankruptcy in August 2010. The bankruptcy was converted into Chapter 7 liquidation and a trustee was appointed to liquidate the assets. The owner of the company was convicted of environmental crimes and sentenced to prison. This company is located at 4904 Griggs Rd and is surrounded by residential properties on virtually all sides. The site is an environmental justice site. The facility contains waste materials from the previous operations of the facility.

The facility was vandalized on or about the weekend of March 15, 2014 when a tank was opened and waste was discharged to the ground. In addition, 2 tanker trucks, a vacuum box, and 7 roll-off boxes were stolen. The location of the liquid in the tanker trucks is unknown and may have been pumped into onsite tankage or taken off site along with the waste in the vacuum box. The materials in the roll-off were dumped onsite. The Houston Haz Mat, Houston Environmental Services and the consultant for the trustee responded to the incident and has been working on addressing the issues associated with the vandalism.

The TCEQ is engaged both at Houston and Austin on this project. The removal program has had discussions with TCEQ and have agreed on the following list of items that need to be accomplished immediately to address the issues at the site: Site Security – Repair Perimeter Fencing; Air Monitoring – Confirm public health and safety; Storm water Management – Insure no off-site migration of storm water from the site. The TCEQ intends to talk with the Trustee to have them perform these actions immediately and on a continuous basis. TCEQ is expected to conduct air monitoring on 3/26/14 for public safety reasons. The TCEQ has indicated they will also insure the waste is removed from the site and it is properly cleaned up whether that be by the Trustee or TCEQ.

**As of 032514**